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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/885,166	06/21/2001	Tatsuhisa Fujii	501.33961R00	3985

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EXAMINER

CHOWDHURY, TARIFUR RASHID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 07/10/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/885,166

Applicant(s)

FUJII ET AL.

Examiner

Tarifur R Chowdhury

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 and 47-61 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24, 47 and 48 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-37 and 49-61 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06/210/01 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/523,842.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Reissue Applications

1. Applicant is reminded of the continuing obligation under 37 CFR 1.178(b), to timely apprise the Office of any prior or concurrent proceeding in which Patent No. 5,914,763 is or was involved. These proceedings would include interferences, reissues, reexaminations, and litigation.

Applicant is further reminded of the continuing obligation under 37 CFR 1.56, to timely apprise the Office of any information which is material to patentability of the claims under consideration in this reissue application.

These obligations rest with each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application for reissue. See also MPEP §§ 1404, 1442.01 and 1442.04.

The examiner has thoroughly reviewed the reissue application in light of the prosecution history of the parent application for issues directed to recapture. Claims 1-24 do not broaden in order to recapture subject matter, which was added/argued in the parent application to overcome a rejection. Further, newly added claims 25-37 and 47-61 present a scope, which has not been previously considered.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the features such as the plurality of lead out wirings including a first portion being substantially parallel to the display electrodes or scanning signal lines or video signal lines and a second portion

being substantially parallel to the terminal electrodes must be shown in detail (emphasis added) or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The drawings need to be described in details in the body of the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 25-37 and 47-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claims 25-37 and 47-61, applicant recites that the inclined linear wiring electrodes are substantially parallel to each other. However, it is not clear from the recitation whether all the inclined linear wiring electrodes are mutually parallel to each other or only a set of two inclined linear wiring electrodes are parallel to another set of two inclined linear wiring electrodes or only one inclined linear electrode is parallel to another inclined linear wiring electrode.

For examination purposes the examiner has assumed that at least one of the inclined linear wiring electrode is substantially parallel to another inclined linear wiring electrode.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. **Claims 25, 26, 30, 33, 36/33, 37/33, 49, 50, 54, 57, 60/57 and 61/57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA).**

8. The AAPA described and shown in Fig. 28, discloses a liquid crystal display suitable for high quality display comprising:

- a pair of liquid crystal device substrates arranged so as to be opposite to each other and joined together by a sealant with a liquid crystal interposed therebetween (col. 1, lines 30-44);

- at least one liquid crystal drive element for driving the liquid crystal (col. 1, lines 47-48);

wherein the liquid crystal display device substrates comprise:

- a plurality of parallel display electrodes (40-1 --- 40-8);
- a plurality of parallel terminal electrodes (41-1 ----- 41-8) led out to an end

portion of the liquid crystal device substrates, connected to the liquid crystal drive element, and having different pitches from pitches of the display electrodes (Fig. 28); and

- a plurality of lead out wirings for connecting the display electrodes and the terminal electrodes, including first portions being substantially parallel to the display electrodes, second portions being substantially parallel to the terminal electrodes and inclined linear wiring electrodes (42-1 ----- 42-8) for connecting the first portion and second portions ; and

wherein the inclined linear wiring electrodes are substantially parallel to each other at least in an area of the liquid crystal side of the sealant; and

wherein lengths of at least one of the first and second portions and widths of the inclined linear wiring electrodes vary.

Accordingly, claims 25 and 49 are anticipated. As to claim 30, the AAPA showed in Fig. 28 also shows that the inclined linear wiring electrodes that are connecting the terminal electrodes are not parallel to the display electrodes.

As to claims 26 and 50, it is clear from Fig. 28 of the AAPA that the pitches of the terminal electrodes are smaller than the pitches of the display electrodes.

As to claims 33, 54, 57, the AAPA described in the present application and shown in Fig. 28 also discloses that the lead out wirings connected to the terminal electrodes positioned at least an outer portion have inclined linear wiring electrodes which are not parallel to the display electrode.

As to claims 36/33 and 60/57, it is clear from Fig. 28 of the AAPA that the pitches of the inclined linear wiring electrodes are substantially (emphasis added) equal to each other.

As to claims 37/33 and 61/57, the AAPA shown in Fig. 28 also shows that the lead out wirings have portions which are parallel to the terminal electrodes, and wherein lengths of the portions vary.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

11. **Claims 27, 28, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36/(34,35) 37/(34, 35), 51, 52, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60/(58,59) and 61/(58,59) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over AAPA as applied to claims 25, 26, 30, 33, 36/33, 37/33, 49, 50, 54, 57, 60/57 and 61/57 above.

12. As to claims 27, 28, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36/(34,35), 37/(34, 35), 51, 52, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60/(58, 59) and 61/(58,59), it is common and known in the art that when the liquid crystal display of the AAPA would be applied to the active matrix liquid crystal display, the display electrodes are scanning signal lines or video signal lines in the substrate wherein the switching devices are installed.

13. Claims 29/(25,27,28) and 53/(49,51,52) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA as applied to claims 27, 28, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36/(34,35) 37/(34, 35), 51, 52, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60/(58,59) and 61/(58,59) above and in view of Shinichi et al., (Shinichi), JP 06-067191 (provided by the applicant).

14. The AAPA differs from the claimed invention because it does not explicitly disclose that the resistances of each lead out wirings are substantially equal.

Shinichi discloses a liquid crystal display including terminal electrodes, display electrodes and lead out wirings connecting the terminal electrodes and the display electrodes. Shinichi also discloses that by setting the resistances of each lead out wirings substantially equal to each other, it is possible to obtain a liquid crystal display that is capable of performing uniform display as a whole.

Shinichi is evidence that ordinary workers in the art of liquid crystal would find a reason, suggestion or motivation to set the resistances of each lead out wirings substantially equal to each other.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the liquid crystal display of the AAPA such that set the resistances of the lead out wiring substantially equal to each other so that a liquid crystal display that is capable of performing uniform display as a whole is obtained, as per the teachings of Shinichi.

Allowable Subject Matter

15. Claims 1-24, 47 and 48 are allowed.

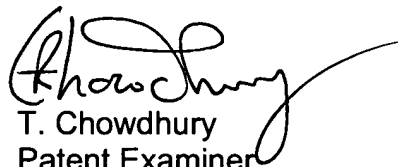
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R Chowdhury whose telephone number is (703) 308-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William L Sikes can be reached on (703) 305-4842. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7005 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

TRC
July 09, 2002


T. Chowdhury
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800